

Backcountry Camping Trip Guide

One Night

National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior
Shenandoah National Park
Emergency: 1-800-732-0911



Nicholson Hollow and Corbin Mountain from the boundary

Standard - Circuit

Level: Experienced

Total Length: 12.3 miles

Trip Description: Wilderness area, cascades, park history, and swimming holes; park at Old Rag boundary

Entry: Weakley Hollow Boundary

Exit: Weakley Hollow Boundary

Map(s): PATC #10 Central District

Central District; East side; Route 600 - Nethers

Central District; East side; Route 600 - Nethers

Day One

Campsite: Nicholson Hollow Trail - backcountry

2 to 3 miles

Hike from parking area to Nicholson Hollow trailhead, up to 0.6 mile.

Hike up Nicholson Hollow Trail 1.4 miles and look for a place to camp in the next mile.

Groups will find enough room to camp legally by looking for sites away from Nicholson Hollow

Trail between the junctions with Corbin Mountain and Hot Mountain-Short Mountain Trails.

Day Two

9.3 to 10.3 miles

Continue hiking up Nicholson Hollow Trail, another 2.8 miles past Corbin Mountain Trail junction.

Turn left onto Indian Run Trail and hike 1.7 miles.

Turn left onto Corbin Mountain Trail and hike 3.8 miles.

Turn right onto Nicholson Hollow Trail and hike out 1.4 miles.

Continue to Old Rag parking, up to 0.6 mile.

Notes

The Hughes River, which runs through Nicholson Hollow, can run very high in the spring or after heavy rains (knee to waist high). The trail crosses the river several times, so be prepared. The plus side is the excellent swimming holes that exist even in drought.

While this is a popular, though not crowded, place on the weekends, during the week you can often have this wilderness area to yourself.